Identification of New Mines in Gujarat

535. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-ANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified new mines in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to renovate those new identified mines with the help of the State Government;

(d) whether despite minerals and land reserves in the Kutch district, the establishment of industries based on minerals could not be made there; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD ABAISHYA):

(a) and (b) As per information available, a total of 53 new mines have been opened in Gujarat from 1993 to 1997 (upto May '97). The mineral-wise numbers of new mines opened during 1993 to 1997 (upto May '97) in Gujarat is as follows:

Mineral	199tf	1994	1995	1996	(May 1997 '97)	Total
Chalk	9	2	4	1	3	19
Dolomite	1	1	2	4	1	9
Limestone	3	2	3	3	—	11 -
Bauxite	2	5	1	4	—	12
Fireclay	1	—	—	—	—	1
Quartz	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	16	10	11	12	4	53

(c) There is no such proposal before the Central Government.

(d) and (c) A number of mineral based industries have been set up or arc in the pipeline in Kutch district. Status of sonic mineral based industries is as follows:—

(i) Based on bauxite deposits of Kutch district, Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., has set up a bauxite calcination plant of 50,000 tpa capacity at Gadhsisa (Mandvi Taluq).

(ii) Based on the lignite deposits located in Lakhpat Taluq, Gujarat Electricity Board has set up two 70MW" thermal power units and third unit with a capacity of 70MW is planned to be added shortly. GMDC Ltd., has also plan to set up a 250 MW thermal power station based on the lignite deposits of this area.

(iii) M/s. Sanghi Industries Ltd.. is setting up a Cement Plant with a capacity of 2.6 million tonnes/annum, based on limestone deposits available in Lakhpat Taluq. The cement plant and its captive power plant of 60MW will utilise lignite of this area.

(iv) A number of levigation and pulverising units for china clay and bentonite respectively arc in operation at the various places in Kutch district.

(v) The Government have approved the proposal of Gujarat Alumina and Bauxite Ltd. in foreign collaboration with M/s. Raytheon Engineers & Construtors Inc. USA and M/s. Raynolds International, USA for setting up of a plant for manufacture of Alumina, Alumina compounds, Metallurgical Coke, Power and Desalinated water in District Kutch, Gujarat.

Use of Solar Energy Programme in Orissa

536. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of NON-

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to launch an accelerated solar energy development programme in the State of Orissa during the current financial year, particularly in tribal districts;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose;

(c) whether Government are giving subsidy on solar and other equipments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Orissa is lagging behind in the use of non-conventional energy and production of solar energy; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to increase the use of solar energy programme in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Encr«v Sources is implementing an expanded Solar Energy Programme during this year all over the country, including the State of Orissa. The Programme in Orissa is implemented through the Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA), which in turn is associating the Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) and non-governmental organisations in implementation. During the current year, the Central Government has identified the Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput (KBK) tribal region in the State as one of the high Focus Areas for implementation of the Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Programme in the country. This has been communicated to the State Government. Allocation of funds for the projects will depend upon the proposals to be submitted by the State Government.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Central Government provides subsidies on several non-conventional energy devices including the solar energy devices. The Central subsidy for solar energy devices is as given below:

Solar Lantern	Rs. 1500 (fixed)
Home Lighting System	50% of ex-works cost (Rs. 6,000 max.)
Street Lighting System	50% of ex-works cost (Rs. 12000 max.)
Power Plant	50% of cost (Rs. 2 lakhs/ KWp. max.)
Solar Pump	Subsidy Rs. 125/Wp (max. Rs. 1.50 lakhs)
Water Heating Systems & Solar cookers	Interest subsidy on loan assistance.

(e) and (f) Although some progress has been achieved in the use of non-conventional energy sources in Orissa, there is considerable potential for further development of non-conventional energy devices in the State. For 1997-98, the Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency has proposed a target of Rs. 1,000 solar lanterns, 100 home lighting systems, 50 street lighting systems, 600 solar cookers, 300 sq. m. of solar thermal collectors for water heating & solar stills, 2 solar dryers and one solar meal maker. These projects will be supported to the extent possible. In addition, a Special Programme may be taken up for installation of SPV systems in the High Focus KBK region.